

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A thermoplastic elastomer, which comprises, as a constituting unit, a polyether component (A) and a polyester component (B), wherein the polyether component (A) comprises poly-oxyalkylene groups ($-C_nH_{2n}O-$) having a carbon/oxygen atomic ratio in a range from 2.0 to 2.5, the polyester component (B) has a number-average molecular weight in a range from 500 to 10,000 and comprises polybutylene terephthalate in an amount of 40 to 90 weight %, the thermoplastic elastomer has a content of polyether component (A) in a range from 50 to 95 weight %, and the thermoplastic elastomer has a glass transition temperature of not more than -20°C .

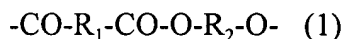
2. (Original) A thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyether component (A) is bonded with a poly-isocyanate component (C).

3. (Previously presented) A thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyether component (A) has a number-average molecular weight in a range from 500 to 5,000.

4. (Previously presented) A thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyether component (A) comprises a polyethylene glycol component.

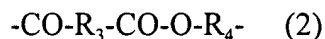
5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously presented) A thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyester component (B) comprises 50 to 100 weight % of a short-chain polyester component represented by the following formula (1) and 50 to 0 weight % of a long-chain polyester component represented by the following formula (2):



wherein R_1 is (i) a divalent aromatic hydrocarbon group of 6 to 12 carbon atoms and/or (ii) a divalent alkylene group of 2 to 10 carbon atoms, or a divalent cycloaliphatic hydrocarbon

group of 6 to 12 carbon atoms; R_2 is an alkylene group of 2 to 8 carbon atoms and/or a divalent cycloaliphatic radical of 6 to 12 carbon atoms;



wherein R_3 is (i) a divalent aromatic hydrocarbon group of 6 to 12 carbon atoms and/or (ii) a divalent alkylene group of 2 to 10 carbon atoms or a divalent cycloaliphatic hydrocarbon group of 6 to 12 carbon atoms; R_4 is a repeating unit of $-\text{R}_5-\text{O}-$, and R_5 is an alkylene group of 2 to 8 carbon atoms.

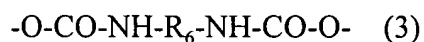
7. (Previously presented) A thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyester component (B) comprises a dicarboxylic acid component having a molar ratio of aromatic dicarboxylic acid groups to aliphatic dicarboxylic acid groups in a range from 100:0 to 40:60.

8. (Previously presented) A thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyester component (B) comprises a diol component having a molar ratio of linear aliphatic diol groups to cycloaliphatic diol groups in a range from 100:0 to 40:60.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) A thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 2, wherein the poly-isocyanate component (C) comprises (i) an aliphatic poly-isocyanate component, (ii) a cycloaliphatic poly-isocyanate component or (iii) a poly-isocyanate component in which the isocyanate group is not directly bonded to an aromatic ring.

11. (Previously presented) A thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 2, wherein the poly-isocyanate component (C) comprises a diisocyanate component represented by the following formula (3):



wherein R_6 is an alkylene group of 2 to 15 carbon atoms, a divalent cycloaliphatic

hydrocarbon group, a phenylene group, a methylene group, or a composite radical of alkylene group and phenylene group.

12. (Currently amended) A thermoplastic elastomer, which comprises, as a constituting unit, a polyether component (A) and a polyester component (B), wherein:

- 1) the thermoplastic elastomer has a water absorption ratio in a range from 50 to 200 weight %,
- 2) the thermoplastic elastomer has a storage modulus of elasticity at 40°C in a range from 1×10^6 Pa and 25×10^6 Pa,
- 3) the thermoplastic elastomer has a glass transition temperature of not more than -20°C , and
- (4) the polyester component (B) has a number-average molecular weight in a range from 500 to 10,000 and comprises polybutylene terephthalate in an amount of 40 to 90 weight %.

13. (Previously presented) A thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 12, wherein the polyether component (A) comprises poly-oxyalkylene groups ($-\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n}\text{O}-$) having a carbon/oxygen atomic ratio in a range from 2.0 to 2.5, the thermoplastic elastomer has a content of polyether component (A) in a range from 50 to 95 weight %, and the thermoplastic elastomer has a glass transition temperature of not more than -20°C .

14. (Previously presented) A method for producing a thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 1 or 12, which comprises producing a prepolymer by reacting a polyether compound (a) with a poly-isocyanate compound (c), and then reacting the prepolymer with a polyester compound (b).

15. (Previously presented) A fiber, comprising a thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 1 or 12.

16. (Original) A fabric comprising a fiber as claimed in claim 15.

17. (Previously presented) An elastomer film or sheet, comprising a thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 1 or 12.

18. (Previously presented) A method for producing an elastomer film or sheet according to claim 17, which comprises producing a prepolymer by reacting a polyether compound (a) and a poly-isocyanate compound (c), reacting the prepolymer with a polyester compound (b) to form a reaction product, and molding continuously the reaction product.

19. (Previously presented) A moisture permeable waterproofing fabric, which is produced by laminating a fabric on at least one side of the elastomer film or sheet as claimed in claim 17.

20. Previously presented) A fabric, wherein at least one side of the fabric is coated with a composition containing the thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 1 or 12.

21. (Previously presented) A moisture permeable waterproofing fabric as claimed in claim 19, wherein said fabric comprises an elastomer fiber.

22. (Previously presented) An elastomer film or sheet as claimed in claim 17, having a moisture permeability of not less than $2,000 \text{ g/m}^2$ (24hr).

23. (Previously presented) An article of manufacture, comprising a moisture permeable waterproofing fabric as claimed in claim 19.

24. (Previously presented) A molded medical product, obtained by molding the thermoplastic elastomer as claimed in claim 1.

25. (Previously presented) A moisture permeable waterproofing fabric as claimed in claim 19, having a moisture permeability not less than $2,000 \text{ g/m}^2$ (24hr).

26. (Previously presented) An article of manufacture as claimed in claim 23, which is a fabric, tent or shoe.